

Course Calendar 2021-2022

Eastern Christian Studies



Fall 2021

Canon Law in the Church

Instructor: Laschuk, Alexander

Course Code: SMP2721HF L0101

Schedule: Wednesday, 19:00-21:00

Location: Windle House and Online

This course provides an introduction to the canon law of the Church: East and West. First, the “Sacred canons” of the first millennium will be examined as the common canonical foundation to the entire Christian Church. Second, developments in the medieval era will be compared in the Byzantine East and the Latin West. Third, the process of legal codification in the Catholic Church will be examined to see one approach to applying historical legislation in the contemporary Church. Finally, numerous themes will be examined to provide a cursory overview of the Catholic Church’s system of canon law, with special attention to questions related to ecclesiology, sacraments, and sanctions in the Church.

Foundations to Eastern Ethics

Instructor: Summerson, Andrew

Course Code: SMT2944HF L0101

Schedule: Thursday, 14:00-16:00

Location: Online

This course explores the essential elements of an Eastern Christian approach to ethics, in terms of its sources, methods and applications. While countenancing an array of specific moral issues—including sexual ethics, embryonic and stem cell research, human cloning, euthanasia, capital punishment, the morality of war, environmental ethics, and social ethics—the course is focused on meta-ethical reflection, i.e., a consideration of the “first principles” of theological ethics within an Eastern Christian context. Thus systematically attention is given to the specifically ethical significance of such data as Scripture, patristic texts, liturgy, hagiography, canon law and contemporary church teaching. Throughout the course, we will probe the nature of the dialectic between (meta)ethical theory and Individual/communal practice.

History of Christianity I

Instructor: Summerson, Andrew

Course Code: SMH1010

Schedule: Monday, 19:00-21:00

Location: Online

This survey course covers from the subapostolic age to the “Triumph of Orthodoxy” in the East and the Carolingian revival and Treaty of Verdun in the West. Geographical expansion of the church; the relation of Christian faith to cultural settings and other religions; the development of doctrinal and ethical positions; forms of Christian life and worship; the rise of Islam.



Certificate in Eastern Christian Studies

Interested in Eastern Christianity?

Talk to us about our Certificate program in Eastern Christian Studies!

This certificate is a seven-course program that is open to all basic degree students at any Toronto School of Theology college in addition to their course of studies. The program is a separate certificate granted by the Faculty of Theology at the University of St Michael’s College in addition to one’s MDiv/MTS program.

For more information, visit:

<https://sheptytskyinstitute.ca/conjoint-certificate-in-theological-studies/>



METROPOLITAN ANDREY SHEPTYTSKY INSTITUTE OF
EASTERN CHRISTIAN STUDIES

University of St. Michael’s College in the University of Toronto



UNIVERSITY OF
ST. MICHAEL’S COLLEGE
IN THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

sheptytskyinstitute.ca

The Three-Personed God: Eastern Christian Perspectives

Instructor: Summerson, Andrew

Course Code: SMT2215HS L0101

Schedule: Thursday, 14:00-16:00

Location: Windle House and Online

This course provides a survey of Eastern Christian teaching on the Triune God that focuses both on patristic and contemporary authors read in English. The course situates doctrine within the broader array of Holy Tradition (Scripture, Fathers, Councils, Creeds, Liturgy, Iconography, Hagiography, etc.), paying attention to the historical contexts in which various teachings arose and were defined. Comparisons will be made between Eastern and Western Christian approaches to certain questions, with some attention to ecumenical repercussions. Apophatic and antinomic approaches to theology will be emphasized as well as the connection between doctrine and spirituality.



Are you interested in any of these courses?

Academic courses in Eastern Christian Studies in the Faculty of Theology are open to registered students at the Toronto School of Theology at the basic degree (MTS/MDiv) or Advanced Degree (MA, ThM, PhD) levels. While the Faculty of Theology at the University of St Michael's College offers concentrations in Eastern Christian Studies, there is also a seven-credit certificate open to any TST student which is concurrent to their current program of study. There are some limited possibilities for auditing these courses or taking them on letter of permission to transfer the credits to another institution.

Contemporary Issues in Eastern Christian Moral Theology

Instructor: Summerson, Andrew

Course Code: SMT3907HS L0101

Schedule: Monday, 14:00-16:00

Location: Windle House and Online

This course invites students to reflect critically, from within an Eastern Christian frame of reference, on a series of current issues where the encounter of contemporaneity and classical wisdom is not only vital but also potentially very fruitful as regards conceptual yield. The issues include the following: virtual reality and cyberspace; war and peacebuilding; social and economic justice; multiculturalism; gender identity/expression and sexuality; (in)fertility and reproductive technologies; genetic research and genome engineering; palliative care and medical assistance in dying; and stewardship for an integral ecology. Contextual discussion of the foregoing will be embedded in a wider theological consideration of rights and responsibilities, as these have developed in the classic expressions of the Eastern Christian tradition(s). Students will thus become aware of how ethics occurs at the intersection of various fields within theology, as well as at the boundary with disciplines beyond it (e.g., philosophy, psychology and sociology).

Tuition Fees

Tuition fees are approximately \$1000 CDN for domestic students and \$2200 for international students, per course. Some financial assistance may be available to qualifying students.

Want More Information?

For more information on the University of St Michael's College and the Toronto School of Theology and its programs, please visit:

www.tst.edu and <https://stmikes.utoronto.ca/>

For general information on our programs, please contact sheptytsky@utoronto.ca

To apply to our programs or to register for a course, please contact usmctheology.registrar@utoronto.ca



Fr. Alexander Laschuk

Fr Alexander M. Laschuk JCD, PhD is a priest of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Toronto and previously Acting Director of the Sheptytsky Institute. He currently works full time as Judicial Vicar of the Toronto Regional Tribunal in addition to helping adjudicate clergy discipline cases across North America. He is also parochial vicar at St Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church (Toronto). A member of the Canon Law Society of America's Eastern Churches Committee and the North-American Orthodox Catholic Theological Consultation, his research interests focus on ecclesiology, history of canon law, penal law, and sacramental law.



Fr. Andrew Summerson

A regular collaborator with the Sheptytsky Institute, Fr. Andrew Summerson joins the faculty of Theology as Assistant Professor of Greek Patristics and Eastern Christian Studies for the 2021-2022 school year. He holds a doctorate in Patristic Theology from the Pontifical Patristic Institute, "Augustinianum." He is the author of *Divine Scripture and Human Emotion in Maximus the Confessor* (Brill 2021) and numerous articles.